

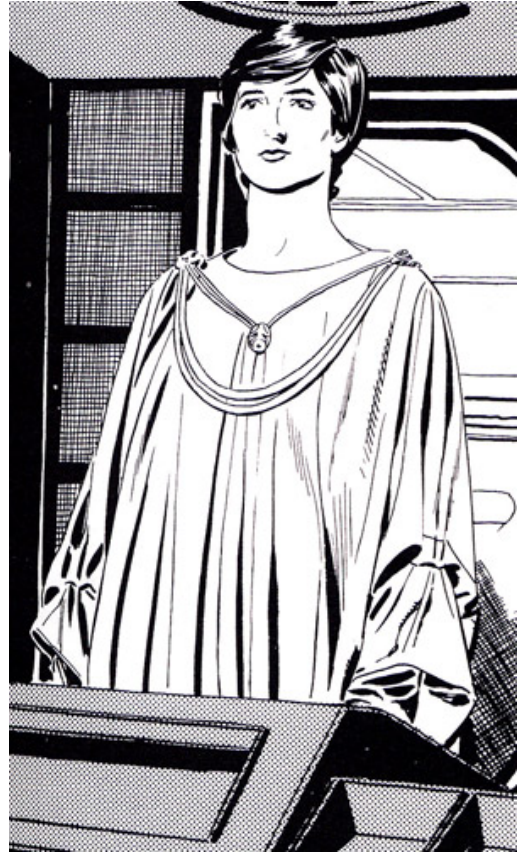
Formal Declaration of Rebellion

Shortly after the signing of the Corellian Treaty, Mon Mothma decided that it was time to make clear to the galaxy the political objectives of the Rebellion. Until this time, Imperial propagandists had been having good success portraying the Rebels as "pirates, criminals, and anarchists, intent on overthrowing the Empire for personal gain." Issuing the "Declaration of Rebellion," Mothma wanted to set the record straight for all time.

The Declaration of Rebellion was written by Mothma herself and addressed directly to the Emperor. Millions of holo-copies of the document were made and distributed by the Alliance's growing intelligence network. Within days, the Declaration could be found on virtually every planet in the Empire. Its effect was everything that the Alliance could have hoped for -- and more.

Soon after the Declaration was distributed, several systems openly declared their allegiance to the Alliance. This was valiant, but foolish -- Mothma attempted to stop them but it was too late. Imperial response was swift and harsh, and within weeks all "Secession Worlds" were suppressed. However, in their few weeks of freedom, the planets were able to transfer much of their weaponry, resources and manpower offworld, into the hands of the Alliance.

The Imperial Propaganda Bureau immediately went to work to discredit the Declaration, but if anything, their wild tales of "blatant terrorism" and "anti-establishment insurgency" merely served to fuel the fire. Many people of the galaxy had become acutely aware of, and generally sympathetic to, the Rebel Alliance, and there was nothing the Empire could do about it.



We, the beings of the Rebel Alliance, do this day send forth this Declaration to His Majesty, the Emperor, and to all sentient beings in the galaxy, to make clear to all the Purposes and Goals of this Rebellion.

We firmly acknowledge the importance and necessity of the institution of Galactic Government. We accept that all must subjugate themselves to that Government, giving up certain rights and freedoms, in return for peace, prosperity and happiness for all.

We believe that the Galactic Government derives its power and right to rule from the consent of the governed. We believe that, should the rights of free beings be willfully and malignantly usurped, it is the unalienable right of said beings to alter or abolish said Government.

We believe that the Galactic Empire has willfully and malignantly usurped the rights of the free beings of the galaxy and therefore, it is our unalienable right to abolish it from the galaxy.

We do not take this course lightly. Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes, but when a Government displays a history of usurpation, abuse and moral atrocity, displaying a clear design to subjugate totally and absolutely beings born free under the auspices of nature, it is our right -- our duty -- to depose that Government.

The history of the present Galactic Empire is of repeated injuries upon its members, with the direct objective of establishing you, Emperor Palpatine, as absolute tyrant over the galaxy:

You have disbanded the Senate, the voice of the people;

You have instituted a policy of blatant racism and genocide against the non-human peoples of the galaxy;

You have overthrown the chosen rulers of planets, replacing them with Moffs and governors of your choice;

You have raised taxes without the consent of those taxed;

You have murdered and imprisoned millions without benefit of trial;

You have unlawfully taken land and property;

You have expanded the military far beyond what is necessary and prudent, for the sole purpose of oppressing your subjects.

We, the Rebel Alliance, do, therefore, in the name -- and by the authority -- of the free beings of the galaxy, solemnly publish and declare our intentions:

To fight and oppose you and your forces, by any and all means at our disposal;

To refuse any Imperial law contrary to the rights of free beings;

To bring about your destruction and the destruction of the Galactic Empire;
To make forever free all beings in the galaxy.

To these ends, we pledge our property, our honor and our lives.

This first appeared in the Rebel Alliance Sourcebook by Paul Murphy, published by West End Games in 1990.